

# **Oil and Gas Leasing Program**

## **Final Environmental Impact Statement May 1985**

STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF  
**NATURAL RESOURCES**  
BRIAN BOYLE  
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC LANDS  
ART STEARNS — SUPERVISOR

This document is ((drafted)) prepared in compliance with the State Environmental Policy Act (Chapter 43.21C RCW); Revised SEPA Guidelines, effective April 4, 1984 (Chapter 197-11 WAC); Regulations of the Department of Natural Resources, effective October 4, 1984 (Chapter 332-41 WAC).

## COVER MEMORANDUM

The Washington State Board of Natural Resources is considering adopting Goals and Policies and the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources is considering adopting the program to carry out these goals and policies for leasing of department-managed lands for oil and gas preliminary investigation and exploratory drilling.

The department is issuing the proposed Oil and Gas Leasing Program (OGLP) simultaneously with this Environmental Impact Statement on the OGLP. The two documents are meant to be read together to provide a complete understanding of the OGLP, alternatives and their impacts.

The Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (((P)))FEIS) discusses possible environmental impacts (with mitigative measures and alternatives) that could occur on department-managed lands as a result of activities (((proposed))) permitted in the Oil and Gas Leasing Program. Activities (((proposed))) will be influenced by the diversity of climate, topography, vegetation, soils and population density found on department-managed lands across the state.

This (((P)))FEIS is prepared in accordance with the Washington State Environmental Policy Act of 1971 as amended by Chapter 43.21C RCW and rules promulgated by Chapter 197-11 WAC, effective April 4, 1984.

The department proposes to allow preliminary investigative and exploratory actions for oil and gas purposes on department-managed land. If exploratory drilling under a lease leads to a producing well, the department also proposes to allow development and production. The development and production phases shall require an environmental checklist and may require a site-specific supplemental environmental impact statement.

The department could choose to deny any or all exploration activities or refuse to lease department-managed lands for oil and gas purposes, but by so doing would be in conflict with department goals and basic trust responsibilities.

The (((P)))FEIS is intended to serve as a baseline for evaluation of proposed oil and gas preliminary investigations and exploratory drilling activities only. The department is (((proposing))) adopting a phased review process which examines site-specific impacts associated with development and production when they occur. Since the location of potential wells is not known and some time may elapse between leasing and the development/production phases, these phases are not analyzed.

The (((P)))FEIS does not cover activities on private or federal lands or state-owned lands managed by other agencies. It also does not address alternatives to or impacts of actions required by the Oil and Gas Conservation Act. Those regulations are administered as a separate entity by the department's Division of Geology and Earth Resources on behalf of the Oil and Gas Conservation Committee. All oil and gas related management activities on department-managed lands are subject to those regulations.

## KEY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Key environmental issues associated with the proposed action were identified by department analysis and the scoping process. Those issues are listed according to frequency of response to the scoping notice. The page numbers on which a discussion may be found (~~is-also~~) are listed below.

- Disruption of fish and wildlife habitat.  
Pages 44, 51, 52, 54, 55, 59, 63, 67, 72, 76
- Impacts to threatened or endangered plant and animal species.  
Pages 39, 40, 55, 59, 63, 76, 81
- Altered movement or degraded quality of surface water.  
Pages 43, 71, 76, 80
- Altered movement or degraded quality of ground water.  
Pages 63, 71, 81
- Noise.  
Pages 44, 64, 67, 72, 76, 82, 84
- Generation and disposal of solid and liquid wastes.  
Pages 45, 47, 65, 71, 79, 80, 81, 85
- Release of poisonous or hazardous substances.  
Pages 72, 74, 82
- Impacts to unstable soils and steep slopes.  
Pages 43, 58
- Increase in erosion due to construction and clearing.  
Pages 43, 75
- Decrease in air quality due to increased particulates or fumes.  
Pages 43, 63, 64, 75, 79
- Degradation of public drinking water sources.  
Pages 35, 63, 71, 72
- Increased road maintenance as a result of increased vehicular use.  
Pages 45, 60

# Key Environmental Issues by Respondent

## ELEMENTS OF THE ENVIRONMENT

(WAC 197-11-444)

### I. NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

#### a) Earth

1 Geology

2 Soils

3 Topography

4 Unique physical features

5 Erosion / accretion

#### b) Air

1 Air quality

2 Odor

3 Climate

#### c) Water

1 Surface and movement / quantity / quality

2 Runoff / absorption

3 Floods

4 Ground H<sub>2</sub>O movement / quantity / quality

5 Public water supplies

#### d) Plants & Animals

1 Habitat, numbers, diversity of plants, fish or wildlife

2 Unique species

3 Fish / wildlife migration routes

#### e) Energy & Natural Resources

1 Amount req. / rate of use / efficiency

2 Source / availability

3 Nonrenewable resources

4 Conservation / renewable resources

5 Scenic resources

|   | 1                 | 2                 | 3                                     | 4                  | 5                | 6                          | 7           | 8                     | 9                   | 10           | 11                                | 12                | 13               | 14                     | 15                       | 16                                     | 17    | 18                         | 19                    | 20                 | 21                 | 22                 | 23                 | 24                         | 25                         | 26                         | 27                         |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--|-------|----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
|   | CITY OF<br>TACOMA | GRANT<br>PASADENA | CHILWELL<br>NATIONAL FOREST<br>COUNTY | WINTHROP<br>COUNTY | RAVENS<br>ISLAND | DEPT. SOCIAL<br>AND HEALTH | BUCKLEBROOK | PILES &<br>RECREATION | STILLWATER<br>TRAIL | OLYMPIC MNTL | SPRINGBROOK CO.<br>PLANNING DEPT. | COVILTZ<br>COUNTY | FRANK<br>MOTHEAN | AMERICAN<br>LAND DEPT. | NEW MEXICO<br>COMMISSION | BLACK CO. PLANNING<br>& CONSERV. DEPT. | WETCO | AMSCO PRODUCTION<br>P.U.D. | SHOQUAN CO.<br>FOREST | CHILWELL<br>COUNTY | CHILWELL<br>COUNTY | CHILWELL<br>COUNTY | CITY OF<br>EVERETT | DEPT. OF<br>TRANSPORTATION | DEPT. OF<br>TRANSPORTATION | DEPT. OF<br>TRANSPORTATION | DEPT. OF<br>TRANSPORTATION |
| 1 Geology   |                   |                   |                                       |                    |                  |                            |             |                       |                     |              |                                   |                   |                  |                        |                          |  |       |                            |                       |                    |                    |                    |                    |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| 2 Soils   |                   |                   |                                       |                    |                  |                            |             |                       |                     |              |                                   |                   |                  |                        |                          |  |       |                            |                       |                    |                    |                    |                    |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| 3 Topography  |                   |                   |                                       |                    |                  |                            |             |                       |                     |              |                                   |                   |                  |                        |                          |  |       |                            |                       |                    |                    |                    |                    |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| 4 Unique physical features                                |                   |                   |                                       |                    |                  |                            |             |                       |                     |              |                                   |                   |                  |                        |                          |  |       |                            |                       |                    |                    |                    |                    |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| 5 Erosion / accretion                                     |                   |                   |                                       |                    |                  |                            |             |                       |                     |              |                                   |                   |                  |                        |                          |  |       |                            |                       |                    |                    |                    |                    |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| b) Air  |                   |                   |                                       |                    |                  |                            |             |                       |                     |              |                                   |                   |                  |                        |                          |  |       |                            |                       |                    |                    |                    |                    |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| 1 Air quality   |                   |                   |                                       |                    |                  |                            |             |                       |                     |              |                                   |                   |                  |                        |                          |  |       |                            |                       |                    |                    |                    |                    |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| 2 Odor  |                   |                   |                                       |                    |                  |                            |             |                       |                     |              |                                   |                   |                  |                        |                          |  |       |                            |                       |                    |                    |                    |                    |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| 3 Climate   |                   |                   |                                       |                    |                  |                            |             |                       |                     |              |                                   |                   |                  |                        |                          |  |       |                            |                       |                    |                    |                    |                    |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| c) Water  |                   |                   |                                       |                    |                  |                            |             |                       |                     |              |                                   |                   |                  |                        |                          |  |       |                            |                       |                    |                    |                    |                    |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| 1 Surface and movement / quantity / quality               |                   |                   |                                       |                    |                  |                            |             |                       |                     |              |                                   |                   |                  |                        |                          |  |       |                            |                       |                    |                    |                    |                    |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| 2 Runoff / absorption                                     |                   |                   |                                       |                    |                  |                            |             |                       |                     |              |                                   |                   |                  |                        |                          |  |       |                            |                       |                    |                    |                    |                    |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| 3 Floods  |                   |                   |                                       |                    |                  |                            |             |                       |                     |              |                                   |                   |                  |                        |                          |  |       |                            |                       |                    |                    |                    |                    |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| 4 Ground H <sub>2</sub> O movement / quantity / quality   |                   |                   |                                       |                    |                  |                            |             |                       |                     |              |                                   |                   |                  |                        |                          |  |       |                            |                       |                    |                    |                    |                    |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| 5 Public water supplies                                   |                   |                   |                                       |                    |                  |                            |             |                       |                     |              |                                   |                   |                  |                        |                          |  |       |                            |                       |                    |                    |                    |                    |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| d) Plants & Animals                                       |                   |                   |                                       |                    |                  |                            |             |                       |                     |              |                                   |                   |                  |                        |                          |  |       |                            |                       |                    |                    |                    |                    |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| 1 Habitat, numbers, diversity of plants, fish or wildlife |                   |                   |                                       |                    |                  |                            |             |                       |                     |              |                                   |                   |                  |                        |                          |  |       |                            |                       |                    |                    |                    |                    |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| 2 Unique species  |                   |                   |                                       |                    |                  |                            |             |                       |                     |              |                                   |                   |                  |                        |                          |  |       |                            |                       |                    |                    |                    |                    |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| 3 Fish / wildlife migration routes                        |                   |                   |                                       |                    |                  |                            |             |                       |                     |              |                                   |                   |                  |                        |                          |  |       |                            |                       |                    |                    |                    |                    |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| e) Energy & Natural Resources                             |                   |                   |                                       |                    |                  |                            |             |                       |                     |              |                                   |                   |                  |                        |                          |  |       |                            |                       |                    |                    |                    |                    |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| 1 Amount req. / rate of use / efficiency                  |                   |                   |                                       |                    |                  |                            |             |                       |                     |              |                                   |                   |                  |                        |                          |  |       |                            |                       |                    |                    |                    |                    |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| 2 Source / availability                                   |                   |                   |                                       |                    |                  |                            |             |                       |                     |              |                                   |                   |                  |                        |                          |  |       |                            |                       |                    |                    |                    |                    |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| 3 Nonrenewable resources                                  |                   |                   |                                       |                    |                  |                            |             |                       |                     |              |                                   |                   |                  |                        |                          |  |       |                            |                       |                    |                    |                    |                    |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| 4 Conservation / renewable resources                      |                   |                   |                                       |                    |                  |                            |             |                       |                     |              |                                   |                   |                  |                        |                          |  |       |                            |                       |                    |                    |                    |                    |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| 5 Scenic resources  |                   |                   |                                       |                    |                  |                            |             |                       |                     |              |                                   |                   |                  |                        |                          |  |       |                            |                       |                    |                    |                    |                    |                            |                            |                            |                            |

|   | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| <b>II BUILT ENVIRONMENT</b>                               |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| <b>a) Environmental Health</b>                            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 1 Noise   |   |   |   | • |   |   |   |   | • |    | •  |    |    |    |    | •  |    |    |    |    |    | •  | •  | •  | •  |    | /  |
| 2 Risk of explosion                                       |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    | •  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 3 Release of toxic or hazardous materials                 |   |   |   |   | • |   | • |   | • |    |    |    |    |    |    | •  |    |    |    |    |    |    | •  | •  |    |    | /  |
| <b>b) Land &amp; Shoreland Use</b>                        |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 1 Relationship to land use plans & established population |   |   |   | • |   |   |   |   |   |    |    | •  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | /  |
| 2 Housing   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    | •  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | •  |    |    |    |    |    |    | /  |
| 3 Light and glare   |   |   |   | • |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | •  |    |    | /  |
| 4 Aesthetics  |   |   |   | • |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    | •  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | /  |
| 5 Recreation  |   |   |   | • |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    | •  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 6 Historic/cultural preservation                          |   |   |   | • |   |   |   |   |   | •  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 7 Agricultural crops                                      |   |   |   | • |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | /  |
| <b>c) Transportation</b>                                  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 1 Transportation systems                                  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    | •  |    |    |    |    | •  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | •  |    |    | /  |
| 2 Vehicular traffic                                       |   |   |   | • |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    | •  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | /  |
| 3 Water, rail and air traffic                             |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | /  |
| 4 Parking   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 5 Movement/circulation of people/goods                    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    | •  |    |    |    |    | •  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 6 Traffic hazards   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | /  |
| <b>d) Public Services/Utilities</b>                       |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 1 Fire  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | /  |
| 2 Police  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    | •  |    |    |    |    | •  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | /  |
| 3 Schools   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    | •  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 4 Parks/rec. facilities                                   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 5 Maintenance   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 6 Communications  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 7 Water/storm water                                       |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 8 Sewer/solid waste                                       |   |   |   | • | • |   | • |   | • |    |    |    | •  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | •  | •  | •  | /  |
| 9 Other gov. services/utilities                           |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | •  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |

RES-204- 

•=IDENTIFIED AS A RESULT OF SCOPING LETTER  
 /=INITIALLY IDENTIFIED BY DNR PRIOR TO SCOPING LETTER  
 2,8,17,18,21=NO IMPACTS IDENTIFIED

ROAD CONSTRUCTION IMPACTS=

SOILS  
TOPOGRAPHY  
EROSION

VEGETATION  
AIR QUALITY

RENEWABLE RESOURCES  
SURFACE WATER QUALITY  
WILDLIFE HABITAT

## FACT SHEET

Action Sponsor: The Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Proposed Action: Leasing of department-managed lands for oil and gas preliminary investigation and exploratory drilling.

Project Location: Statewide

Responsible Official  
and Contact Person: Kenneth E. Solt, Division Manager  
Lands Division  
Mail Stop QW-21  
Department of Natural Resources  
Olympia, WA 98504  
(206) 753-2989

Prepared By: Donald M. Ford and Ellis R. Vonheeder

Contributing Editor: Ellen Ellis

Note: An oil and gas lease is obtained by public auction for department-managed lands. Listed permits and approvals may be required to conduct preliminary investigation and exploratory drilling.

Activities may require the following permits and approvals.

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Oil and Gas Lease               | Department of Natural Resources                      |
| Seismic Exploration Permit:     | Oil and Gas Conservation Committee                   |
| Oil and Gas Drilling Permit:    | Oil and Gas Conservation Committee                   |
| Right of Entry Permit:          | Department of Natural Resources                      |
| Zone Changes and Local Permits: | Appropriate County/City Planning or Building Offices |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Permits for Access<br>On/Off County Roads:                         | Appropriate County Offices  |
| Shoreline Management<br>Permits:                                   | Appropriate County Planning Office  |
| Water Removal Permits:   | Department of Ecology   |
| Hydraulic Project<br>Approval:                                     | Departments of Fisheries and Game   |
| Solid Waste Disposal:  | Appropriate County Health District Office   |
| Sanitary Waste Disposal:   | Appropriate County Health District Office   |
| Compliance with the<br>Forest Practices Act:                       | Department of Natural Resources Division of<br>Private Forestry and Recreation  |
| Compliance with State<br>Dangerous Waste<br>Regulations:           | Department of Ecology Regional Office   |
| Compliance with State<br>Noise Standards:                          | Department of Ecology Regional Office   |
| Consultation Regarding<br>Archaeological/<br>Historical Resources: | Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation<br>and Washington Archaeological Research Center  |
| Consultation Regarding<br>Endangered Species:                      | Department of Natural Resources Natural Heritage<br>Program and Department of Game Nongame Program  |
| Consultation Regarding<br>Wildlife Resources:                      | Department of Game  |
| Location of EIS<br>Background:                                     | Washington Department of Natural Resources<br>Lands Division<br>Room 202<br>Public Lands Building<br>14th and Water Street<br>Olympia, Washington 98504       |
| Cost to ((P))purchase<br>((G))copy of this ((P))FEIS:              | <u>((<del>\$5.00-per-set</del>)) Initial copies are available<br/>from the Department at no cost. Additional<br/>copies are available for \$6.00 per set.</u> |
| Date of Issue of ((P))FEIS:  | <u>((<del>November-26,-1984</del>)) May 22, 1985</u>  |
| <u>((<del>Closing-Date-for-Public<br/>Comments</del>))</u>         | <u>((<del>January-15,-1985</del>))</u>  |

WAC

197-11-960 Adoption notice.

## ADOPTION OF EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT

Adoption for (check appropriate box) ☐ DNS ☒ EIS ☐ other \_\_\_\_\_Description of current proposal Programmatic EIS, Oil and Gas Lease ProgramProponent Department of Natural Resources (DNR)Location of current proposal Department managed lands, statewideTitle of document being adopted State of Washington Natural Heritage ProgramAgency that prepared document being adopted DNRDate adopted document was prepared 1983Description of document (or portion) being adopted Describes Natural Heritage Plan and methods of preservation, and lists of priorities for rare plants, animals, etc.

If the document being adopted has been challenged (197-11-630), please describe:

The document is available to be read at (place/time) Department of Natural Resources, Room 201, Public Lands Building, 14th & Water Street, Olympia, WA 8 A.M. - 5 P.M., Monday-Friday

We have identified and adopted this document as being appropriate for this proposal after independent review. The document meets our environmental review needs for the current proposal and will accompany the proposal to the decisionmaker.

Name of agency adopting document Department of Natural Resources

Contact person, if other than responsible official \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Responsible official Kenneth E. SoltPosition/title Manager, Lands Division Phone 753-2989Address Room 202, Public Lands Building, Olympia, WA 98504Date 10/22/84 Signature Kenneth E. Solt



WAC  
197-11-960 Adoption notice.

## ADOPTION OF EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT

Adoption for (check appropriate box) ☐ DNS ☒ EIS ☐ other \_\_\_\_\_Description of current proposal Programmatic EIS, Oil and Gas Lease ProgramProponent Department of Natural Resources (DNR)Location of current proposal Department -managed lands, statewideTitle of document being adopted Forest Land Management Program EISAgency that prepared document being adopted DNRDate adopted document was prepared November 1983Description of document (or portion) being adopted Heritage Protection-Endangered, Threatened and Sensitive Species, Natural Area Preserves/Registry Program, and Cultural Resources, and the Existing Environmental Conditions.

If the document being adopted has been challenged (197-11-630), please describe:

The document is available to be read at (place/time) Department of Natural Resources, Room 201, Public Lands Building, 14th & Water Street, Olympia, WA  
8 A.M.-5 P.M., Monday-Friday

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Contact person, if other than responsible official \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Responsible official Kenneth E. SoltPosition/title Manager Lands Division Phone 753-2989Address Room 202, Public Lands Building, 14th and Water Street, Olympia 98504Date 10/22/84 Signature Kenneth E. Solt

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## DISTRIBUTION LIST

### FEDERAL AGENCIES

|                                      |                   |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| U.S. Forest Service                  | Benton            |
| Colville National Forest             |                   |
| Gifford Pinchot National Forest      | Chelan            |
| Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest |                   |
| Okanogan National Forest             | Clallam           |
| Olympic National Forest              |                   |
| Wenatchee National Forest            | Clark             |
| U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs        | Columbia          |
| U.S. Bureau of Land Management       | Cowlitz-Wahkiakum |
| U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service       | Ferry             |
| U.S. National Park Service           | Franklin          |
| Olympic National Park                |                   |
| Rainier National Park                | Grant             |
| North Cascades National Park         |                   |

### WASHINGTON STATE GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Department of Ecology                           | Grays Harbor |
| Department of Fisheries                         | Island       |
| Department of Game                              | Jefferson    |
| Department of Social and Health Services        | King         |
| Department of Transportation                    | Kitsap       |
| Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation | Kittitas     |
| Parks and Recreation Commission                 | Klickitat    |
| Washington State Conservation Commission        | Lewis        |
| Washington State Energy Office                  | Lincoln      |

### COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSIONS

|        |              |
|--------|--------------|
| Adams  | Okanogan     |
| Asotin | Pacific      |
|        | Pend Orielle |
|        | Pierce       |
|        | San Juan     |

## INDIAN TRIBES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Skagit  
Skamania  
Snohomish  
Spokane  
Stevens  
Thurston  
Whatcom  
Yakima

## CITIES AND TOWNS

Buckley  
Carnation  
Centralia  
Eatonville  
Everett  
North Bend  
Richland  
Seattle  
Snohomish  
Sultan  
Tacoma

## PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICTS

Chelan County  
Snohomish County

Chehalis Business Council  
Colville Business Council  
Hoh Tribal Business Committee  
Jamestown Clallam Indian Tribe  
Kalispel Business Committee  
Lower Elwha Tribal Council  
Lummi Business Council  
Makah Tribal Council  
Muckleshoot Tribal Council  
Nisqually Indian Community  
Nooksack Indian Tribal Council  
Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission  
Port Gamble Business Committee  
Puyallup Tribal Council  
Quileute Tribal Council  
Quinault Business Committee  
Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribal Council  
Shoalwater Bay Tribal Council  
Skokomish Tribal Council  
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Squaxin Island Tribal Council  
Stillaguamish Board of Directors  
Suquamish Tribal Council  
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Upper Skagit Tribal Council

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STATE UNIVERSITY GEOLOGY DEPARTMENTS

Central Washington University

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Washington State University

Western Washington University

SCHOOL DISTRICT

Sultan School District 311

HEALTH DISTRICT

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Auburn Public Library

Bellingham Public Library

Burlington Public Library

Camas Public Library

Central Washington University

Clark College

Eastern Washington University Library

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Kitsap Regional Library

Longview Public Library

Mid-Columbia Regional Library

Moses Lake Public Library

Mount Vernon Public Library

North Olympic Library System

Pacific Lutheran University

Pasco Public Library

Pierce County Library

Port Townsend Public Library

Prosser Public Library

Puyallup Public Library

Renton Public Library

Richland Public Library

Seattle Pacific University

Seattle Public Library

Shelton Public Library

Spokane County Library

Spokane Public Library

Tacoma Public Library  
Timberland Regional Library  
U.S. Department of Energy - Law Library,  
Richland  
University of Puget Sound  
University of Washington  
Walla Walla Public Library  
Washington State University  
Wenatchee Public Library  
Western Washington University  
Whitman College  
Yakima Valley Regional Library

#### ORGANIZATIONS

Association of Washington Businesses  
Association of Washington Cities  
Black Hills Audubon Society  
Evergreen Audubon Society  
Friends of the Columbia  
Hood Canal Environmental Council  
League of Women Voters  
Nature Conservancy  
Northwest Association of Petroleum  
Landmen  
Northwest Steelhead Salmon Council  
Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society

Pilchuck Audubon Society  
Seattle Audubon Society  
Sierra Club  
Washington Association of Counties  
Washington Cattlemen's Association  
Washington Environmental Council  
Washington Forest Protection Association  
Washington Independent Petroleum Royalty  
Owners  
Washington Sportsmen's Council  
Washington Wheatgrowers Association  
Willapa Hills Audubon Society

#### OIL AND GAS TRADE ASSOCIATIONS

Western Oil and Gas Association

#### COMPANIES

American Hunter Exploration  
Anschutz Corp.  
Arco Corporation  
Boise Cascade Corp.  
Champlin Petroleum  
Chevron USA  
Conoco Inc.  
Crown-Zellerbach



Diamond Shamrock Corp.

Exxon Corp.

Garth Tallman and Assoc.

Georgia Pacific

Getty Oil Co.

Gulf Oil Corp.

Howell Energy

ITT Rayonier

Knight Royalty Corp.

Lewis County Timber Co.

Longview Fibre Corp.

Marathon Oil Co.

May Petroleum Inc.

Meridian Land and Mineral Co.

Mobil Oil Corp.

Port Gamble Co.

Rex Randolph

St. Regis Co.

Scott Paper Co.

Shell Oil Co.

Simpson Timber

Sohio Petroleum

Union Oil Co.

Voyager Petroleum

Weyerhaeuser Co.

## OIL AND GAS LESSEES

Amoco Production

Artamus

Chaparral

William Corry

Emefco Petroleum

Jerry Ryan and Co.

Junico Corp.

Love Oil Co.

Martin Wilson and Assoc.

Milestone Petroleum

Steve Saban

Say Energy Inc.

Texaco Corp.

Nathan Thomas

Kirk Tracy

Trinity Resources

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Don Lee Fraser

Marshall T. Hunting

Dan Mathias

Darrell Williams

John DeYonge

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## BACKGROUND

State trust lands have been leased for oil and gas exploration since the early 1900s. Over the years, interest has fluctuated. In early years, neither the private nor governmental sector had any concerns other than leasing a tract of land and receiving the appropriate rentals. As time passed, concern was expressed about the impact of underground drilling and the depletion of oil and gas reserves by too much drilling. Legislation was passed in 1951 establishing the Oil and Gas Conservation Committee (Chapter 78.52 RCW) to issue permits and regulate drilling for oil and gas.

In 1971 the State Environmental Protection Act (SEPA) (Chapter 43.21C RCW) was enacted to bring into focus the environmental impacts that activities could have on the environment of the state of Washington.

Leasing of state trust lands for oil and gas exploration was subject to SEPA compliance. Individual lease applications were not investigated as to their potential impact on the environment but an overall checklist was prepared for the act of leasing. Environmental issues were investigated when permits were acquired from the Oil and Gas Conservation Committee for exploration drilling or shot-hole seismic surveys. The lease required the lessee to comply with the permit. During leasing activities in 1979, concerns were raised about the relationship of oil and gas leasing and exploration to the environment.

In 1981 and 1982 several hundred applications to lease for oil and gas exploration were received by the department. In response to concerns raised at meetings with state agencies and four public meetings, an environmental checklist was required for each lease application. The department then divided lease applications into three categories, depending upon their relationship to environmental issues. The categories were: (1) normal leasing, (2) restricted leasing and (3) withdrawn from leasing because of either law or policy decision by the Commissioner in areas that are being extensively studied for management issues. A public auction was held April, 1984, using the category system.

Prior to the auction, the complex process of determining category placement, and the concerns expressed in public meetings caused the department to begin preparation of a program and a programmatic environmental impact statement for oil and gas seismic exploration and exploratory drilling. All April, 1984, leases contained a provision that those activities would not be allowed until completion of the program and environmental impact statement.

During the development of the program and the environmental analysis, the scope was expanded to include all preliminary investigative activities. The department's goal is to make department-managed lands available for leasing, and through this ((P))FEIS identify and describe the environmental issues and propose mitigation measures necessary to alleviate harmful environmental impacts.

## SCOPING

SEPA guidelines (WAC 197-11-408) direct a lead agency to narrow the scope of an EIS to probable significant adverse impacts and reasonable alternatives, including mitigation measures.

Through circulation of a Scoping Notice dated June 6, 1984, the department proposed a programmatic EIS (PEIS) to cover oil and gas leasing, explosive seismic exploration and exploratory drilling on department-managed lands. Included with this notice was a Determination of Significance with a listing of areas of concern previously identified.

A copy of the Scoping Notice and an environmental checklist were available during the 21-day comment period which began June 8, 1984. The department received 26 responses from agencies, tribes and the private sector. A summary of the major areas of concern indicated in the comments and addressed in the PEIS follows.

### NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

#### Earth

- Steep slopes
- Unsuitable soils
- Compaction of soils
- Erosion increase due to road construction

#### Air

- Decrease in air quality from increased particulates or fumes.

#### Water

- Altered movement and degraded quality of surface waters
- Increased runoff of surface waters
- Altered movement and degraded quality of ground water
- Degradation of public drinking water supplies

#### Plants and Animals

- Degradation of fish and wildlife habitat
- Impacts to breeding, nesting, calving, wintering or spawning areas

- Impacts to threatened or endangered species of plants and animals

#### Energy and Natural Resources

- Storage of chemicals and fuels
- Amounts of fuel required to sustain exploration operation
- Impacts and damage to forested areas

### BUILT ENVIRONMENT

#### Environmental Health

- Noise
- Possible spills and explosions
- Possible release of poisonous or hazardous substances

#### Land and Shoreline Use

- Impacts to wetland, riparian areas and floodplains
- Increased population
- Increased housing requirements
- Light and glare from artificial light sources
- Aesthetics
- Preservation of historically or culturally significant areas
- Removal of agricultural cropland from production

#### Transportation

- Increased road maintenance
- Increased vehicular traffic

#### Public Services and Utilities

- Increased police protection
- Impacts to parks and recreation areas
- Disposal of solid and liquid wastes